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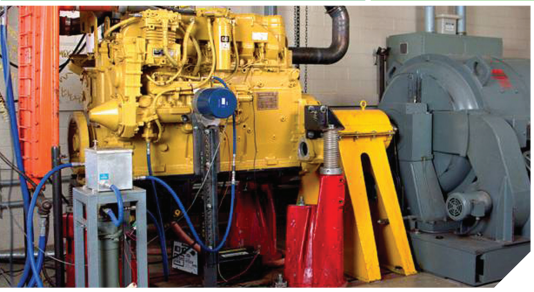
fact SHEET

BUILDING A SCIENTIFIC FOUNDATION FOR SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL DECISIONS



Environmental Technology Verification Program

www.epa.gov/etv

What Is ETV?

The EPA Environmental Technology Verification Program (ETV) develops test protocols and verifies the performance of innovative technologies that have the potential to improve protection of human health and the environment. The program was created in 1995 to help accelerate the entrance of new environmental technologies into the domestic and international marketplaces. ETV is a voluntary program that makes objective performance information available to support decision-making. ETV verification establishes or proves the truth of the performance of a technology under specific, pre-determined criteria or protocols and a strong quality management system. ETV does not endorse, certify, or approve technologies. Verification reports and statements are published on the ETV Web Site.

ETV's Goal

The goal of ETV is to provide credible performance data for commercial-ready environmental technologies to speed their implementation for the benefit of purchasers, permitters, vendors, financiers, and the public.

ETV Accomplishments, Impacts, and Outcomes

ETV has verified over 400 technologies and developed more than 90 protocols. A survey of participating vendors completed in 2001 showed overwhelming support for the ETV Program. Responses indicated that 73 percent of the vendors were using ETV information in product marketing, and 92 percent of those surveyed responded that they would recommend ETV to other vendors.

In 2006, EPA published a two-volume set of case studies which document actual and projected outcomes from verifications of technologies in 15 categories (EPA/600/R-06/001 and EPA/600/R-06/082).

ETV Process

ETV operates as a public-private partnership, mainly through cooperative agreements between EPA and private nonprofit testing and evaluation organizations. These ETV verification organizations work with EPA technology experts to create efficient and quality-assured testing procedures that verify the performance of innovative technologies. ETV efforts are guided by the expertise of stakeholder groups. These stakeholders represent verification customers for particular technology sectors, including technology purchasers and users, technology developers and vendors, the financial community, state and federal regulators and permitters, consulting engineers, environmental organizations, and others. ETV stakeholders assist the program by helping to develop verification protocols for testing, prioritizing the types of technologies to be verified, and implementing outreach activities to the customer groups they represent.

ETV operates verification centers that verify environmental technologies across a broad range of categories. Vendors and others in the private sector, as well as federal, state, and local government agencies, cost-share with EPA to complete protocols and verifications. In 2005, ETV initiated Environmental and Sustainable Technology Evaluations (ESTE) in which priority technology categories for meeting EPA needs are verified through contracts with verification organizations.

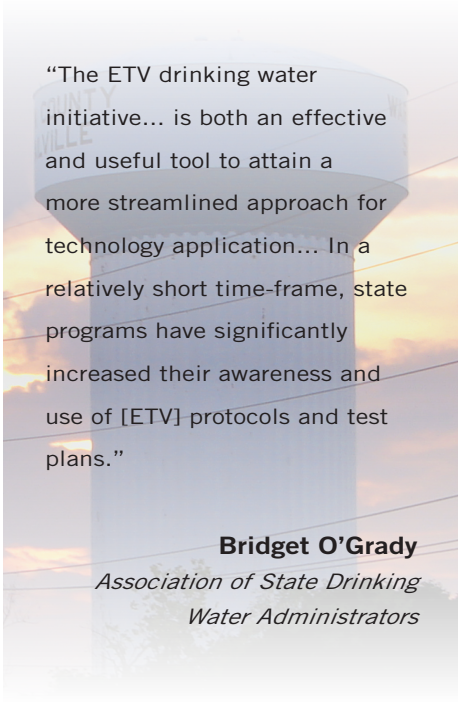
Benefits of ETV

- Provides objective, credible performance data to purchasers
- Facilitates technology acceptance and permitting at the state/local level
- Reduces risk for financial investors
- Levels the playing field among competitors through standardized tests and objective reporting
- Facilitates export of environmental products

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Research and Development, National Risk Management Research Laboratory

Numerous EPA offices and state programs are being supported by ETV technology testing results. These include technologies related to mercury, particulates, NO_X and SO_X, emissions control and monitoring, stormwater control and treatment, infrastructure rehabilitation, control of runoff and energy recovery from combined animal feeding operations, distributed energy generation for greenhouse gas reduction, pathogen and arsenic treatment in drinking water systems, and lead in dust monitoring.

An Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) 2007 survey showed that 34 states recognize and use ETV reports. ASDWA and its members rely heavily on these evaluations to support the use of new technologies and products in the drinking water industry.



"The ETV drinking water initiative... is both an effective and useful tool to attain a more streamlined approach for technology application... In a relatively short time-frame, state programs have significantly increased their awareness and use of [ETV] protocols and test plans."

Bridget O'Grady
Association of State Drinking Water Administrators

"ETV has been very beneficial to Clean Diesel Technologies; it has allowed us to participate in programs that previously would have been inaccessible to us. ETV allowed us to not only validate our technology, but also to gain a commercial initiative."

Glen Reid
Clean Diesel Technologies, Inc.

ETV International

International interest in verification is growing. In addition to the U.S. Program, Canada, the European Union (EU), Japan, Korea, the Nordic countries, and the Philippines have developed pilot or fully operating verification programs. Other countries have also expressed an interest in developing verification programs.

ETV has helped foster the development of many of these programs by sharing information, and has searched for opportunities to work collaboratively with these programs. In addition to raising the international relevance of the U.S. ETV Program's efforts, collaborations with programs in other countries could reduce or eliminate duplicative efforts and allow EPA to leverage its resources and skills to meet shared environmental goals. Program harmonization could also help verified vendors access international markets more efficiently. Recently, U.S. ETV has developed a joint protocol with ETV Canada for rapid toxicity testing of soil, and has started a joint verification effort with NOWATECH (Nordic ETV) for passive groundwater sampling technology.

The ETV Program is a founding member of the International Working Group on Environmental Technology Verification with Canada and the European Commission to develop a common approach to verification.

To Learn More about ETV

ETV's Web Site, www.epa.gov/etv, provides users with ETV verification reports and statements, protocols and test plans, stakeholder information, meeting summaries, and other important resources. ETV distributes monthly newsletters using the program's listserv, ETVoice, to inform subscribers about the availability of new information on recent technology verifications, future events, vendor solicitations, and highlights in the ETV Program.

View the ETVoice newsletters at http://www.epa.gov/nrmrl/std/etv/etvcurrent.html. To subscribe to the ETVoice listserv, send a blank e-mail to join-etvoice@lists.epa.gov.

ETV Verification Centers

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